

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, line 10: [STATE OF THE] DESCRIPTION OF RELATED ART.

Page 5, line 14: SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.

Page 7, line 24: BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS.

Page 8, line 5: DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1-9 and 20 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof, and add the following new claims:

B2  
428/512 TR  
694  
694BR  
205/

21. (new) Aluminum alloy strip with high surface homogeneity produced by twin-roll casting, said strip comprising an upper side having, after a 1  $\mu$ m thick sulphur anodic treatment, an optical roughness value  $S_N$  measured on three 5 cm longitudinal sections and three 5 cm transverse sections, such that there is mean variation on each section, defined by the ratio:

$$(\text{Maximum } S_N - \text{minimum } S_N) / \text{Mean } S_N$$

which is less than 20%, and a difference  $\Delta S_N = S_N \text{ max} - S_N \text{ min}$  which is less than 20.

22. (new) Aluminum alloy strip with high surface homogeneity produced by twin-roll casting<sup>C</sup> and then cold-rolled to a thickness between 4 and 0.1 mm, said strip comprising an upper side having, after an acid pickling treatment on a 10  $\mu$ m

B2  
thickness, followed by a 1  $\mu$ m thick sulphur anodic treatment, an optical roughness value  $S_N$  measured on three 5 cm longitudinal sections and three 5 cm transverse sections, such that there is a variation of less than 20% and a difference  $\Delta S_N$  of less than 12.

23. (new) Aluminum alloy strip with high surface homogeneity produced by twin-roll casting<sup>C</sup> said strip comprising an upper side having, after pickling and sulphur anodic treatment, at least one characteristic selected from the group consisting of:

- 205/704  
324  
328
- (a) an  $S_k$  value determined by 3D roughness measurement greater than -2.0; and
  - (b) an  $E_k$  value determined by 3D roughness measurement less than 15.

24. (new) Strip according to claim 23, wherein a value  $L^*$  determined according to ASTM D2244-89, section 6.2, calculated on the basis of 20 individual measurements along a generatrix parallel to a longitudinal direction has a standard deviation which is less than 0.5.

25. (new) Aluminum alloy strip with high surface homogeneity produced by twin-roll casting<sup>C</sup>, comprising an upper side having, after pickling and sulphur anodic treatment, an  $S_k$  value, obtained by 2D roughness measurement analysis of images obtained with an optical scanner, between -0.2 and

+0.3.

BV

26. (new) Aluminum alloy strip with high surface homogeneity produced by twin-roll casting<sup>C</sup> and then cold-rolled to a thickness between 4 and 0.1 mm, having undergone at least one finishing pass with polished cylinders, with a roughness  $R_a < 0.2 \mu m$ , said strip comprising an upper side, after electrolytic brightening followed by a  $1 \mu m$  thick sulphur anodic treatment, having an optical roughness value  $S_N$  measured on three 5 cm longitudinal sections and three 5 cm transverse sections, with a variation which is less than 20%, and the difference  $\Delta S_N$  which is less than 3.5.

27. (new) Strip according to claim 21, having, on the upper side, a grain size, measured by image analysis, less than  $20 \mu m$ .

28. (new) Strip according to claim 21, wherein the aluminum alloy is a 1000 series or 8000 series alloy containing between 0.01 and 2% by weight of iron and between 0.01 and 2% by weight of silicon, and iron present in solid solution is greater than  $50 \text{ ppm} + 0.03 \times \text{ppm total Fe}$ .

29. (new) Strip according to claim 21, wherein the aluminum alloy is a 5000 series alloy containing less than 1.5% of Mg.

30. (new) Strip according to claim 22, wherein the thickness is between 2 and 0.1 mm.

31. (new) Strip according to claim 23, wherein  $S_k$  is greater than  $-1.0$ .

BZ  
32. (new) Strip according to claim 23, wherein  $E_k$  is less than 8.

33. (new) Strip according to claim 24, wherein the standard deviation is less than 0.3.

34. (new) Strip according to claim 25, wherein the  $S_k$  value is between  $-0.1$  and  $+0.2$ .

35. (new) Strip according to claim 26, wherein the thickness is between 2 and 0.1 mm.

36. (new) Strip according to claim 27, wherein the grain size is less than 15  $\mu\text{m}$ .